

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims. Please cancel claims 6, 18 and 29 and amend claims 1, 2, 7, 11, 12, 13, 19, 24-28, 30, 31 and 34 as follows:

1        1. (currently amended) A method for managing a multi-tiered  
2        resource system, the method comprising:  
3                automatically determining if a resource tier is in compliance  
4        with a management policy, wherein the management policy includes  
5        requiring that an expiration date of the resource tier occur after a  
6        maintenance date; and  
7                if the resource tier is not in compliance with the management  
8        policy, automatically attempting to bring the resource tier in  
9        compliance with the management policy increasing available capacity in  
10      containers in order to bring the containers in compliance with the  
11      management policy.

1        2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein  
2        automatically attempting to bring the resource tier in compliance with  
3        the management policy increasing available capacity in containers  
4        includes allocating additional capacity to containers belonging to the  
5        resource tier until the resource tier is in compliance with the  
6        management policy.

1        3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2        additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing a capacity  
3        reserve belonging to the resource tier.

1        4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2        additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing available  
3        capacity from other containers in the resource system.

1        5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2        additional capacity to the containers includes allocating additional  
3        capacity to containers of higher importance before allocating  
4        additional capacity to containers of lower importance.

1        6. (canceled)

1        7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 1, further  
2        comprising calculating the expiration date of the resource tier.

1        8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein calculating the  
2 expiration date of the resource tier includes calculating a life  
3 expectancy of each container belonging to the resource tier.

1        9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein calculating the  
2 life expectancy of the containers includes adjusting the life  
3 expectancy of the containers to account for container lead-time.

1        10. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the  
2 resource tier cannot be brought in compliance with the management  
3 policy, alerting that the resource tier is not in compliance with the  
4 management policy.

1        11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein  
2 ~~automatically attempting to bring the resource tier in compliance with~~  
3 ~~the management policy increasing available capacity in containers~~  
4 includes compressing data within the resource tier until the resource  
5 tier is in compliance with the management policy.

1        12. (currently amended) A system for managing a multi-tiered  
2 resource system, the system comprising:

3            means for automatically determining if a resource tier is in  
4 compliance with a management policy; and  
5            means for automatically ~~attempting to bring the resource tier in~~  
6 ~~compliance with the management policy increasing available capacity in~~  
7 ~~containers in order to bring the containers in compliance with the~~  
8 ~~management policy~~ if the resource tier is not in compliance with the  
9 management policy.

1        13. (currently amended) A system for managing a multi-tiered  
2 resource system, the system comprising:

3            a determining module configured to automatically determine if a  
4 resource tier is in compliance with a management policy; and  
5            a processing module configured to automatically ~~attempt to bring~~  
6 ~~the resource tier in compliance with the management policy increase~~  
7 ~~available capacity in containers in order to bring the containers in~~  
8 ~~compliance with the management policy~~ if the resource tier is not in  
9 compliance with the management policy.

1           14. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the processing  
2 module is further configured to allocate additional capacity to  
3 containers belonging to the resource tier until the resource tier is in  
4 compliance with the management policy.

1           15. (original) The system of claim 14, wherein the processing  
2 module is further configured to utilize a capacity reserve belonging to  
3 the resource tier.

1           16. (original) The system of claim 14, wherein the processing  
2 module is further configured to utilize available capacity from other  
3 containers in the resource system.

1           17. (original) The system of claim 14, wherein the processing  
2 module is further configured to allocate additional capacity to  
3 containers of higher importance before allocating additional capacity  
4 to containers of lower importance.

1           18. (canceled)

1           19. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~18~~ 13, wherein the  
2 determining module is further configured to calculate the expiration  
3 date of the resource tier.

1           20. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein the determining  
2 module is further configured to calculate a life expectancy of each  
3 container belonging to the resource tier.

1           21. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein the determining  
2 module is further configured to adjust the life expectancy of the  
3 containers to account for container lead-time.

1           22. (original) The system of claim 13, further comprising an  
2 alert module configured to alert that the resource tier is not in  
3 compliance with the management policy if the resource tier cannot be  
4 brought in compliance with the resource policy.

1           23. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the processing  
2 module is further configured to compress data within the resource tier  
3 until the resource tier is in compliance with the management policy.

1        24. (currently amended) A computer program product embodied in a  
2 tangible media comprising:

3            computer readable program codes coupled to the tangible media for  
4 managing a multi-tiered resource system, the computer readable program  
5 codes configured to cause the program to:

6            automatically determine if a resource tier is in compliance with  
7 a management policy; and

8            automatically attempt to bring the resource tier in compliance  
9 with the management policy increase available capacity in containers in  
10 order to bring the containers in compliance with the management policy  
11 if the resource tier is not in compliance with the management policy.

1        25. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim  
2 24, wherein the program code configured to automatically attempt to  
3 bring the resource tier in compliance with the management policy  
4 increase available capacity in containers includes program code  
5 configured to cause the program to allocate additional capacity to  
6 containers belonging to the resource tier until the resource tier is in  
7 compliance with the management policy.

1        26. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim  
2 25, wherein the program code configured to automatically attempt to  
3 bring the resource tier in compliance with the management policy  
4 increase available capacity in containers includes program code  
5 configured to cause the program to utilize a capacity reserve belonging  
6 to the resource tier.

1        27. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim  
2 25, wherein the program code configured to automatically attempt to  
3 bring the resource tier in compliance with the management policy  
4 increase available capacity in containers includes program code  
5 configured to cause the program to utilize available capacity from  
6 other containers in the resource system.

1        28. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim  
2 25, wherein the program code configured to automatically attempt to  
3 bring the resource tier in compliance with the management policy  
4 increase available capacity in containers includes program code

5 configured to cause the program to allocate additional capacity to  
6 containers of higher importance before allocating additional capacity  
7 to containers of lower importance.

1        29. (canceled)

1        30. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 29  
2 24, wherein the program code configured to determine if the resource  
3 tier is in compliance with the management policy includes program code  
4 configured to cause the program to calculate the expiration date of the  
5 resource tier.

1        31. (currently amended) The method computer program product of  
2 claim 30, wherein the program code configured to cause the program to  
3 calculate the expiration date of the resource tier includes program  
4 code configured to cause the program to calculate a life expectancy of  
5 each container belonging to the resource tier.

1        32. (original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein  
2 the program code configured to cause the program to calculate a life  
3 expectancy of each container belonging to the resource tier includes  
4 program code configured to cause the program to adjust the life  
5 expectancy of the containers to account for container lead-time.

1        33. (original) The computer program product of claim 24, further  
2 comprising program code configured to cause the program to alert that  
3 the resource tier is not in compliance with the management policy if  
4 the resource tier cannot be brought in compliance with the management  
5 policy.

1        34. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim  
2 24, wherein the program code configured to automatically attempt to  
3 bring the resource tier in compliance with the management policy  
4 increase available capacity in containers includes program code  
5 configured to cause the program to compress data within the resource  
6 tier until the resource tier is in compliance with the management  
7 policy.